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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, September 11, 1987 -- Freight traffic carried on major U.S. railroads during the week ended September 5 totaled an estimated 19.7 billion ton-miles, 30.4 percent above the corresponding week of 1986, which included the Labor Day holiday, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 36 weeks of 1987 was an estimated 628.4 billion ton-miles carried, up 4.7 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings originated in the week ended September 5 totaled 433,854, up 28.8 percent from the corresponding week of last year, and 1.9 percent above the preceding week. Compared with last year, carloadings originated were up 30.0 percent in the East and up 27.4 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, all of the 21 major commodity groups increased. Grain showed a gain of 10,926 cars loaded (52.0 percent) and coal increased by 26,999 cars (27.6 percent). Sixteen of the 21 commodity groups increased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended August 29 totaled 103,790 trailers and/or containers, 0.9 percent below last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 35 weeks of the year was 3,400,295 trailers and/or containers, up 3.2 percent from 1986.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 9/05/87:

	Loadings in Week ended September 5, 1987		Change from Corresponding Week 1986			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	31,953	I	10,926	52.0	I	1,008	3.3
Other farm products	2,802	I	326	13.2	I	120	4.5
Metallic ores	19,194	I	1,525	8.6	I	1,066	5.9
Coal	124,864	I	26,999	27.6	D	159	0.1
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	17,061	I	4,792	39.1	D	168	1.0
Nonmetallic minerals	10,761	I	3,235	43.0	I	700	7.0
Grain mill products	11,005	I	1,648	17.6	I	611	5.9
Food and kindred products	10,847	I	1,478	15.8	D	400	3.6
Primary forest products	10,720	I	2,300	27.3	I	22	0.2
Lumber and wood products except furniture	8,484	I	2,201	35.0	D	338	3.8
Pulp, paper and allied products	12,893	I	607	4.9	I	265	2.1
Chemicals and allied products	27,776	I	5,917	27.1	I	2,014	7.8
Petroleum products	5,356	I	1,392	35.1	I	383	7.7
Stone, clay and glass products	11,643	I	2,683	29.9	I	430	3.8
Coke	4,748	I	1,185	33.3	D	946	16.6
Metals and products	10,212	I	3,718	57.3	I	484	5.0
Motor vehicles and equipment	18,021	I	1,554	9.4	I	1,113	6.6
Waste and scrap materials	9,358	I	3,009	47.4	I	270	3.0
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	3,356	I	443	15.2	I	117	3.6
All other carloads	82,670	I	20,946	33.9	I	1,459	1.8
LCL traffic	130	I	17	15.0	I	38	41.3
Total Cars Loaded	433,854	I	96,901	28.8	I	8,089	1.9
Corresponding week of 1986	336,953						

	1987	1986	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (36 weeks)	14,030,259	13,480,652	I 4.1
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
35 Weeks ended August 29	608.7	584.8	I 4.1
Week ended September 5	19.7	15.1	I 30.4
36 Weeks cumulative	628.4	599.9	I 4.7

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